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CLAIMS

1. A socket device for receiving a connection pin or solder ball, said socket device comprising:

a substrate having an upper surface;

a connection pad disposed on said upper surface;

a layer disposed on said upper surface and on said connection pad, said layer including material having an overall negative coefficient of thermal expansion;

a contact hole formed in said layer exposing a portion of said connection pad.

2. A socket device for receiving a connection pin or solder ball, said socket device comprising:

a substrate having an upper surface;

a connection pad disposed on said upper surface;

a first layer disposed on said upper surface and on said connection pad, said first layer including material having an overall positive coefficient of thermal expansion;

a second layer disposed on said first layer, said second layer including material having an overall negative coefficient of thermal expansion; and a contact hole formed in said first and second layers exposing a portion of said connection pad.

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- 3. The socket device of claim 2, including a bonding layer disposed between said first and second layers, said bonding layer bonding said first and second layers together.
- 5 4. The socket device of claim 2, wherein said contact hole includes a first portion formed in said first layer having a first linear dimension and a second portion formed in said second layer having a second linear dimension smaller than said first linear dimension.
 - 5. The socket device of claim 1, wherein said layer includes zirconium tungstate.
 - 6. The socket device of claim 2, wherein said second layer includes zirconium tungstate.
 - 7. The socket device of claim 5, wherein said layer including zirconium tungstate has a substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior.
 - 8. The socket device of claim 6, wherein said second layer including zirconium tungstate has a substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior.
- 9. The socket device of claim 7 or 8, wherein said substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior is exhibited at least in a temperature range of from about 100 °C to about 200 °C.

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- 10. The socket device of claim 9, wherein said substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior is exhibited at least at a temperature of about 150 °C.
- 5 11. The socket device of claim 1, wherein said contact hole includes a chamfer formed in said layer.
 - 12. The socket device of claim 2, wherein said contact hole includes a chamfer formed in said second layer.
 - 13. The socket device of claim 3, wherein said contact hole includes a first portion formed in said first layer having a first linear dimension and a second portion formed in said second layer having a second linear dimension smaller than said first linear dimension.
 - 14. The socket device of claim 3, wherein said second layer includes zirconium tungstate.
 - 15. The socket device of claim 14, wherein said second layer including zirconium tungstate has a substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior.

- 16. The socket device of claim 15, wherein said substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior is exhibited at least in a temperature range of from about 100 °C to about 200 °C.
- 5 17. The socket device of claim 16, wherein said substantially isotropic negative thermal expansion behavior is exhibited at least at a temperature of about 150 °C.